

Message

From: Lara, Rhina [Lara.Rhina@epa.gov]
Sent: 2/26/2021 12:28:16 PM
To: Sadowsky, Don [Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov]; Koch, Erin [Koch.Erin@epa.gov]; Leifer, Kerry [Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov]
CC: Ozmen, Shamus [Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov]; Kaczmarek, Chris [Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov]; Schwarz, Stephanie [Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov]; Nesci, Kimberly [Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Thank you!

Best,

Rhina M. Lara (*she/her/hers*)

Communications Branch

Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Phone: (202) 815- 5722

From: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 7:24 AM
To: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>; Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>; Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

I'm good with it.

Donald A. Sadowsky
Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office
Office of General Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
(202) 564-5638

From: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 5:02 PM
To: Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>; Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

This looks accurate to me.

From: Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, February 25, 2021 4:41 PM
To: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>; Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie

<Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

I'm fine with that

Kerry Leifer, Chief
Chemistry, Inerts and Toxicology
Assessment Branch
Registration Division (7505P)
Office of Pesticide Programs
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
(703) 308-8811
leifer.kerry@epa.gov

On Feb 25, 2021, at 4:17 PM, Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov> wrote:

Hi,

OPA made some edits to the answers re: Inert Finder and I wanted to run them by you before continuing. Please let me know if the re-write is still accurate.

5. ***Regarding EPA's Inert Finder, are companies meant to use that as a baseline for what inert ingredients are permitted? Are there any PFAS listed in the finder? If so, how has EPA been able to rule them out as a potential source of the contamination?***

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Best,
Rhina M. Lara (*she/her/hers*)
Communications Branch
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Phone: (202) 815- 5722

From: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 7:50 AM
To: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>; Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Sorry I didn't get back to you last night. I would advise, to be safe, removing the highlighted sentences and using your alternative "EPA is exploring..."

Erin

From: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 4:46 PM
To: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>; Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Best,
Rhina M. Lara (*she/her/hers*)
Communications Branch
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Phone: (202) 815- 5722

From: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 4:04 PM
To: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>; Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Rhina – one solution to this CBI issue is to delete the last sentence in #7. But then consider whether the question is answered.

From: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 4:00 PM
To: Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>; Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>; Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Ex. 5 Attorney Client (AC)

Donald A. Sadowsky
Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office
Office of General Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
(202) 564-5638

From: Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:58 PM
To: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>; Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Ex. 5 Attorney Client (AC)

Kerry Leifer, Chief
Chemistry, Inerts and Toxicology Assessment Branch
Registration Division (7505P)
Office of Pesticide Programs

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, DC 20460
tel: (703) 308-8811
fax: (703) 605-0781

e-mail: leifer.kerry@epa.gov

From: Koch, Erin
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:50 PM
To: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>;
Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Leifer,
Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

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From: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:46 PM
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Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Leifer,
Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>
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Donald A. Sadowsky
Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office
Office of General Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
(202) 564-5638

From: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:25 PM
To: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>;
Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Leifer,
Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Ex. 5 Attorney Client (AC)

From: Koch, Erin
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:23 PM
To: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Leifer, Kerry <Leifer.Kerry@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Ex. 5 Attorney Client (AC)

From: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:18 PM
To: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>; Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Lara, I looked at the language again, and decided that my earlier edits could be made yet a bit clearer. See new language in green.

Donald A. Sadowsky
Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office
Office of General Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
(202) 564-5638

From: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:14 PM
To: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>; Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Thank you, Don! That's really helpful.

Best,

Rhina M. Lara (*she/her/hers*)
Communications Branch
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Phone: (202) 815- 5722

From: Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 3:08 PM
To: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>; Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>;
Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>
Subject: Re: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Edits to answer #6 below.

Donald A. Sadowsky
Pesticides and Toxic Substances Law Office
Office of General Counsel
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460
(202) 564-5638

From: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 23, 2021 2:49 PM
To: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>;
Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Hi Erin,

E&E news got back to us with three more questions. I just wanted to run them by you quickly for review!

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Best,
Rhina M. Lara (*she/her/hers*)
Communications Branch
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Phone: (202) 815- 5722

From: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 4:06 PM
To: Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>; Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>;
Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Nothing further from me.

From: Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 3:47 PM
To: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>; Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>;
Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

See thoughts in blue below. Thanks for the second look.

From: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 3:39 PM
To: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>; Nesci, Kimberly <Nesci.Kimberly@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>;
Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 5 PM

Hi Kimberly and Erin,

Just sharing modified answers after Shamus' review (mostly wording edits and adding that link to FDA at the end). Let me know if we are still good to go with these.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

For information on food and PFAS, contact FDA.

Best,
Rhina M. Lara (*she/her/hers*)
Communications Branch
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Phone: (202) 815- 5722

From: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 2:44 PM
To: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>; Sadowsky, Don <Sadowsky.Don@epa.gov>;
Kaczmarek, Chris <Kaczmarek.Chris@epa.gov>; Schwarz, Stephanie <Schwarz.Stephanie@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 4 PM

Rhina,

I don't have any comments on your proposed answers. They look pretty high level and as far as I know accurate. I'm cc'ing some of my colleagues for their awareness.

Erin

From: Lara, Rhina <Lara.Rhina@epa.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 22, 2021 12:58 PM
To: Koch, Erin <Koch.Erin@epa.gov>
Cc: Ozmen, Shamus <Ozmen.Shamus@epa.gov>
Subject: REVIEW: E&E News Press Inquiry, DDL 4 PM

Hi Erin,

I hope you had a great weekend! We got a press inquiry from E&E News regarding the PFAS in pesticide packaging issue. Sorry for the quick turnaround, but we have to get an answer to the reporters by Wednesday. Could you please look over the following answers by **4 PM today**? The answers come from our internal Qs&As, so not a lot of new language.

1. ***Who manufactures the barrels in question?***
The fluorinated high-density polyethylene (HDPE) containers used by Clarke Mosquito to store and transport the affected pesticide are fluorinated by Inhance Technologies.
2. ***What can you tell us about the levels of PFAS EPA found in the barrels?***
In the coming weeks, EPA is planning to release data providing insight into PFAS compounds and levels found in the identified product and present in/on fluorinated containers.
3. ***Is this issue limited to pesticides used in Southeastern Massachusetts, or is EPA worried about other products or other geographies where this may be the case?***
At this point, EPA does not believe the issue is specific to any geographic area. Fluorinated polyethylene and HDPE are used for numerous applications such as food packaging and containers for chemical storage, including pesticides. EPA is using its authorities under FIFRA and TSCA to obtain more information about the potential scope of this contamination and to evaluate whether other regulated products may be affected.
4. ***What can you tell us about what other products might be contained in these barrels?***
 - o ***Based on EPA's coordination with USDA and FDA, can you tell us if there are any food products you are concerned about and which ones?***
EPA understands that roughly 20-30% of all rigid agriculture chemical packaging in North America is fluorinated HDPE. EPA is conducting additional testing to understand the extent and significance of the PFAS contamination and continues to be in close communication with the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

Best,
Rhina M. Lara (*she/her/hers*)
Communications Branch
Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Phone: (202) 815- 5722

<image002.png>
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